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MINERAL LAND CLASSIFICATION OF
SOUTHEASTERN KERN COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

by
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BACKGROUND: California's Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975 (SMARA) requires the State Geologist to classify land into Mineral Resource Zones (MRZ) according to its known or inferred mineral potential. The primary goal of mineral land classification is to ensure that the mineral potential of land is recognized by local government decision-makers and considered before land-use decisions are made that could preclude mining. The State Geologist selected southeastern Kern County as a high priority area for mineral land classification with the approval of the State Mining and Geology Board.

SUMMARY: This study encompasses the land area from the Los Angeles County line northward, westward to the eastern Tehachapi Mountains and the Sierra Nevada, and eastward to the San Bernardino County line. Of particular importance in potential land-use conflicts with mineral resource commodities is the area between Mojave and the Los Angeles County line—a future urban corridor. Those mineral commodities identified as threatened by potential land-use conflicts are limestone, borates, gold, and dimension stone. Report consists of 60 page text and 25 plates at a scale of 1:48,000.

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